

Bailey had just leapt into renown with "Festus." Brown-
ing, in 1840, produced his "Sordello," and
his wife her
" Drama of Exile "; while Hood meandered " Up
the Khine,"
and Tupper basked in the continued popularity
of his hook
of platitudes, already two years old. Meantime
Paraday had
published the first edition of his ^{te} Experimental
Eesearches
in Electricity " ; Darwin, advancing slowly and
methodically
towards great pronouncements, was preparing
the " Zoology
of the Voyage of the Beagle "; John Stuart Mill
was medi-
tating on his " System of Logic." And while
Southey com-
pleted his naval History, while Agnes
Strickland began to
issue her " Lives of the Queens/' and Harriet
Martineau her
History of thirty years, Macaulay wrote his
Essays, and
Carlyle discoursed on "Heroes and Hero-
worship."

For the *Ion ton* of London, the Countess of
Blessing-
ton's now forgotton " Belle of the Season" was
one of the
novels of the day; but in that same year, 1840,
Dickens
published his " Old Curiosity Shop,"* Thackeray
his " Catherine
ine " and his " Paris Sketch Book," Ainsworth
his " Tower,"
James his " Man at Arms," Marryat his " Poor
Jack," Hook
his "Cousin Geoffrey," and Prances Trollope her
"Widow
Married," with which she hoped to repeat the
success of her

clever "Widow Barnaby." Bulwer, for his part, was writing "Night and Morning," and Lever was recording the exploits of "Charles O'Malley," while Disraeli, who had produced his tragedy "Alarcos" the previous year, turned for a time from literature. The Brontes and Kingsley had given nothing as yet; the Eossettis were children, like George Meredith, then twelve years old; and among those who in 1840 first saw the light were John Addington Symonds and Thomas Hardy.